

## The State of New Hampshire

## Department of Environmental Services



## Michael P. Nolin Commissioner

Kathryn Amaral Samantha's Inn PO Box 191 West Ossipee, New Hampshire 03890 WMB PBF 04-31 December 13, 2004

Dear Ms. Amaral:

The Department of Environmental Services, Water Division ("DES") is required by RSA 485-A:26 to operate a program to ensure the health and safety of the public when using public bathing facilities such as pools and spas. To implement this program, DES has adopted administrative rules Env-Ws 1101-1105 to specify the design, operation, and maintenance requirements for public bathing facilities. DES reviews applications for new public bathing facilities and also inspects and tests the water in existing public bathing facilities to ensure that applicable requirements are being met.

On November 4, 2004, DES inspected the following public bathing facilities at Samantha's Inn in Tamworth, NH: the indoor pool ("Indoor Pool") and spa ("Spa").

During this inspection, the following deficiencies were noted:

- 1. Env-Ws 1103.15(c) requires a free residual chlorine concentration between 1.0 mg/L and 3.0 mg/L in public pool water. The free chlorine residual of the Indoor Pool water ranged from 0.51 mg/L to 0.69 mg/L on November 4, 2004.
- 2. Env-Ws 1103.16(e) requires a bromine concentration between 2.0 mg/L and 5.0 mg/L in public spa water, with an absolute maximum of 10 mg/L bromine. The bromine concentration of the Spa water was approximately 20.25 mg/L on November 4, 2004.
- 3. Env-Ws 1103.16(f) requires a pH between 7.0 and 7.8 in public spa water. The pH of the Spa water was 6.9 on November 4, 2004.
- 4. Env-Ws 1104.01 requires the operator to test public bathing facility water for disinfectant residual, pH, and temperature prior to use of a public bathing facility and every 4 hours during operation, to record test results on a dated daily log sheet, and to maintain operational records for the previous twelve months and make these records available to DES and patrons of the public bathing facility upon request. Records indicated that testing was only being conducted one time per day.
- 5. Env-Ws 1104.04(a) requires the following safety devices to be present at all public pools: (1) a light, strong pole not less than 12 feet long, including a body hook, and (2) a minimum one-fourth inch diameter throwing rope as long as one and one-half times the maximum width of the pool or 50 feet, whichever is less, to which has been firmly attached a ring buoy with an outside diameter of approximately 15 inches or a similar flotation device. A throwing rope was not attached to the ring buoy at the time of inspection.
- 6. Pursuant to Env-Ws 1104.03(d)(7), a clock shall be visible from all public spas. A clock was not visible from the Spa at the time of the inspection.
- 7. Pursuant to Env-Ws 1104.03(c), signs shall provide the location of the nearest telephone. The location of the nearest telephone was not posted at the Pool at the time of the inspection.
- 8. Env-Ws 1104.03(e)(1) states that the depth of water in feet shall be plainly and conspicuously marked at or above the water line on the vertical pool wall and on the top of the coping or edge of the deck or walk next to the pool. The depth of the Pool was not marked on the vertical pool wall of the Pool.
- 9. Env-Ws 1105.01(k)(19) requires pool filtration systems to include a flow meter. The filtration system

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for the Pool did not include a flow meter.

- 10. Env-Ws 1105.03(d)(2) requires spa filtration systems to include a flow meter. The filtration system for the Spa did not include a flow meter.
- 11. Env-Ws 1103.08 requires toilet facilities to be provided for both sexes and conveniently located for use. There are no toilets for use at the Pool.

DES believes the cited deficiencies can be corrected within 30 calendar days and requests that you submit a report within 45 days of receipt of this letter that describes the corrective measures taken. The report should include the following:

- 1. A copy of two weeks of water quality test results for all facilities (please do not send originals).
- 2. The type, manufacture, and model of the flow meters to be installed.
- 3. A timetable of when:
  - a. the safety items will be in place;
  - b. the depth will be marked; and
  - c. the installation of the flow meters will be completed.

DES personnel will conduct another inspection at a later date to determine whether you have come into, and are maintaining, full compliance with RSA 485-A:26 and Env-Ws 1101-1105. In the event that compliance is not achieved, DES may take further action, including seeking an administrative fine up to \$2,000 for each offense or referring the case to the NH Attorney General's Office for judicial action.

We appreciate your cooperation in this matter. Please contact Tim Wilson at (603) 271-7108 if you have any questions regarding this letter. Copies of Env-Ws 1101-1105 are available through the DES Public Information Center at (603) 271-2975 or via the Internet at http://www.des.state.nh.us/pools/env1100.pdf.

Jody Connor
Limnology Center Director

Certified Mail # 7000 1670 0000 0587 7392

Enclosures

cc: Gretchen R. Hamel, Legal Unit Administrator, DES Tim Wilson, Public Bathing Facility Inspector, DES John Roberts, Health Officer, Town of Tamworth

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